18th July 1953]

Concessions to the Ezhavas of Malabar.

* 663 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued a Government Order declaring Ezhavas of Palghat as being eligible for concessions granted to Backward Classes;

(*b*) if so, why;

(*c*) whether in other areas of Malabar than Palghat, Ezhavas are described by different names such as Chokans, Tandans and Thiyyas; and

(*d*) whether classes in (*c*) also will be made eligible for all concessions, etc., granted to the Ezhavas of Palghat by inclusion in the Backward Classes list?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) to (*d*) A copy [a] of G.O. No. 774, Education, dated 6th April 1953, is placed on the table of the House. The Thiyyas in the four taluks mentioned in the order were granted the concessions because they were considered to be backward in education. It is not the intention of the Government to extend this concession to any other groups now."

Protected Water-supply Scheme for Uravakonda town.

* 664 Q.—SRI S. NARAYANAPPA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Tungabhadra High Level Channel has been included in the Five-Year Plan; and

(*b*) if not, what steps the Government have taken in connexion with the Protected Water-supply Scheme of Uravakonda town?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) The scheme has not yet been included in the Five-Year Plan.

" (*b*) The matter is being examined by the Government."

Public holiday on Buddha Purnima.

* 665 Q.—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have recently declared Buddha Purnima as a public holiday; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons for the same?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) No, Sir. The Government after considering a suggestion that a holiday should be notified on Vaishak Purnima, have decided not to do so as the principle behind holidays is not analogous to honouring persons of distinction. We have far too many non-working holidays already. The list can be added to only for

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 655 infra.